

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-04 L-02 FRB-01 OMB-01

TAR-01 SP-02 SWF-01 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-05 LAB-01 NSAE-00 OIC-02 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-01

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 FEA-01 CEQ-01 COA-01 DODE-00

EPA-01 NSF-01 NSC-05 PM-03 OES-03 SS-15 DLOS-03 FMC-01

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APPROVED BY IO:JWMCDONALD, JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:UNEP, UNCTAD, OCON

SUBJECT: THE COCOYOC DECLARATION ON "PATTERNS OF RESOURCE
USE, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES"

1. A UNEP/UNCTAD SYMPOSIUM MADE UP OF 12 UN OFFICIALS AND
21 PRIVATE CITIZENS CHAIRED BY BARBARA WARD (LADY JACKSON)
WAS HELD AT COCOYOC (ACCENT ON LAST SYLLABLE) MEXICO
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OCTOBER 8-12. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ATTENDED THE FINAL WORK

SESSION AND ENDORSED ITS DECLARATION. FOUR COUNTRIES IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE UNGA REQUESTED THAT THE DECLARATION BE CIRCULATED AS A WORKING DOCUMENT WHEN IT WAS ALLUDED TO BY UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STRONG IN LAUDATORY TERMS.

2. THIS SWEEPING DECLARATION INSISTS THAT A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER IS NEEDED BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER ESTABLISHED BY THE UN CHARTER THIRTY YEARS AGO HAS FAILED TO MEET THE "INNER LIMITS" OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN NEEDS WHILE ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND RISING PRESSURES ON RESOURCES ENDANGER THE "OUTER LIMITS" OF THE PLANET'S PHYSICAL INTEGRITY. THE FAILURE TO PROVIDE A "HAPPY LIFE FOR ALL" IS NOT DUE TO A LACK OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES BUT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MALDISTRIBUTION AND MISUSE.

3. THE COCOYOC DECLARATION IMPLICITLY ACCEPTS THE CLUB OF ROME LIMITS TO GROWTH THESIS THAT OVER-CONSUMPTION BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, POPULATION GROWTH AND POLLUTION

ARE LEADING INEVITABLY TO WORLD CATASTROPHE AND EXPLICITLY ESPOUSES THE VIEWPOINT AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EMBODIED IN THE PROGRAM OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND THE LDC VERSION OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES. THE URGENT NECESSITY FOR "NO GROWTH" MUST BE RECONCILED WITH THE EQUALLY URGENT NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN LIVING STANDARDS FOR SEVENTY PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE. THIS SYNTHESIS IS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH A REDISTRIBUTION OF WORLD RESOURCES FROM THE RICH TO THE POOR COUNTRIES.

4. THIS REDISTRIBUTION WOULD BE BEGUN BY DEVELOPING THE RESOURCES OF THE OCEAN FLOOR IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS AND FROM TOLLS LEVIED ON VESSELS CROSSING THE HIGH SEAS, AS FIRST STEPS TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL TAXATION SYSTEM AIMED AT PROVIDING AUTOMATIC TRANSFERS OF RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. BEGINNING WITH THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, THE UN SYSTEM IS TO BE RENEWED AND STRENGTHENED IN ORDER TO BE CAPABLE OF ITS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. ALTHOUGH LONG ON RHETORIC, THE DECLARATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION IS SHORT ON SPECIFICS ON HOW THIS IS TO BE DONE.

5. THE USG HAD NO ADVANCE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COCOYOC MEETING EVEN THOUGH PARTICIPANTS STRONG/UNEP, COREA/UNCTAD, AND EGLESIAS/ECLA HAD ALL VISITED WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY BEFORE. THE ONLY AMERICAN PARTICIPANT WAS HARVARD PROFESSOR LEONTIEFF, A RECENT NOBEL PRIZE WINNER IN ECONOMICS. ALTHOUGH STRONG REFERRED TO THE MEMBERS AS

A BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF HIGH LEVEL SCIENTISTS,
IT APPEARS THAT THEY WERE CHOSEN RATHER CAREFULLY ON THE
BASIS OF DEMONSTRATED LIKE-MINDEDNESS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSIONS SHOULD AT THEIR DISCRETION,
IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH STRONG, COREA, AND IGLESIAS,
POINT OUT THAT WE DO NOT CONSIDER THE PARTICIPANTS TO BE
REPRESENTATIVE NOR THAT THE DECLARATION EVEN ATTEMPTS TO
GIVE A BALANCED TREATMENT TO THE ISSUES INVOLVED. YOU MAY
SUGGEST THAT WE HOPE THAT IN THEIR PUBLIC REFERENCES TO
THE DECLARATION, THEY GIVE IT A BALANCED AND NEUTRAL TREAT-
MENT. INGERSOLL

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